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**Photosynthesis by carotin.**—KOHLE<sup>23</sup> shows by new experiments that the secondary maximum in the curve of photosynthesis, as drawn by ENGELMANN, is due to carotin. He eliminates the possible error in this determination (made by an improvement of the bacterial method), showing that the bacteria are in no wise affected by the F-rays alone. But when algae are illuminated only by rays absorbed by carotin, the movement of the bacteria begins, indicating evolution of O<sub>2</sub>. He also shows that though O<sub>2</sub> is necessary to the formation of chlorophyll, etiolated leaves may become green in an O-free chamber, provided CO<sub>2</sub> is not in excess, since they can use the O<sub>2</sub> set free in photosynthesis. Of etioline KOHL can find no trace, and he holds it certain that neither carotin nor xanthophyll (the latter probably a transformation product of the former) can be antecedents of chlorophyll. Whatever gives rise to it is probably colorless.—C. R. B.

**Poisonous Colorado plants.**—GLOVER<sup>24</sup> reports the results of studies of larkspur and other poisonous plants in Colorado. Of the eighteen species of *Delphinium* found in Colorado the most serious pests in this connection are *D. elongatum* and *D. Nelsonii*. He finds that the larkspur gradually becomes less and less toxic as it approaches the flowering period and finally becomes entirely harmless. The toxic principle has not yet been determined for these species, but is probably delphinine and some other related alkaloids. Other poisonous plants mentioned are species of *Zygadenus*, *Cicuta*, *Lupinus*, and *Hymenoxys*. The last plant is not strictly poisonous, but forms after being eaten a rubbery mass that may prove injurious. The bulletin contains a useful bibliography of the literature of plants poisonous to cattle on the range.—E. MEAD WILCOX.

**Ecology in the Philippines.**—It is a matter of no small interest to receive the first extended ecological study of a region of the Philippines. WHITFORD'S<sup>25</sup> account of the vegetation of the Lamao forest reserve introduces us to a tropical region, where the details of plant ecology are new and fascinating, and where the problems must be peculiarly complex. The Lamao forest reserve is in the province of Bataan (Luzon), on the east slope of a group of volcanic peaks known as Mount Mariveles. After the introductory statements as to geology and physiography, climate, and soil, the vegetation is discussed at length under six formations: Strand, Bambusa-Parkia, Anisoptera-Strombosia, Dipterocarpus-Shorea, Shorea-Plectronia, and Eugenia-Vaccinium. The half-tone plates are numerous and present most interesting views of tropical vegetation.—J. M. C.

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<sup>23</sup> KOHL, F. G., Die assimilatorische Funktion des Karotins. Ber. Deutsch. Bot. Gesells. 24:222-229. 1906.

<sup>24</sup> GLOVER, G. H., Larkspur and other poisonous plants. Bull. Col. Exp. Sta. 113:1-24. pls. 1-8. 1906.

<sup>25</sup> WHITFORD, H. N., The vegetation of the Lamao forest reserve. Philippine Jour. Sci. 1:373-431, 637-679. map and pls. 1-45. 1906.